

1 **ABSTRACT**

2 Systems and methods are described for managing network connectivity for  
3 mobile users, particularly when a mobile user roams between two networks or  
4 between two subnets of a network. An announcer signal is broadcast by a host  
5 organization. The announcer signal includes a network identifier, an authorizer  
6 address and a verifier address. A mobile client monitors for the announcer signal  
7 and, when detected, provides an option to connect to the network via the  
8 authorizer. Once authorization is obtained, the mobile client communicates with  
9 the network through the verifier. The verifier received tagged data packets from a  
10 mobile client and only accepts the data packets if a valid tag (created with an  
11 authorization key) is included therewith. Multiple verifiers may be used to  
12 provide load balancing and fault tolerance (in the event a verifier fails). If a  
13 mobile client disconnects from a network and later reconnects, the mobile client  
14 does not have to be re-authorized if the mobile client still has a valid authorization  
15 key.  
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